



Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man.

THE COW'S UDDER.

Many suppose that the two large superficial veins which lie on each side of the belly of the cow, leading from the udder to about midway of the belly, called "milk veins," are really veins conveying milk from the stomach of the cow, or from somewhere else, into the udder. This is a very mistaken idea; they, in fact, convey blood away from the udder and not milk into it. It is true that good milkers always have these veins very large, and they therefore by their size indicate, that the vascular system of the animal is large, and that there will probably be a full supply of the necessary quantity of blood, by the interior arteries into the udder, from which the secretory gland may secrete milk. The construction of the udder is very curious, and an examination of it shows a wonderful adaptation of it to the purposes designed in its use.

The Rural Cyclopaedia, a very good English work on Rural subjects, gives an interesting description of its structure, which we borrow for the benefit of our readers who may have a desire to read it.

The udder of a cow, says the writer, is a unique mass, composed of two symmetrical parts, simply united to each other by a cellular tissue, lax, and very abundant; and each of these parts comprises two divisions or quarters, which consist of many small granules, and are connected together by a compact laminous tissue, and from each quarter proceed streams of ducts, which form successive unions and confluences somewhat in the manner of the many affluents of a large river, until they terminate in one grand excretory canal, which passes down through the elongated mamillary body called the teat.

Lactiferous, or milk tubes, however, do not, as might be supposed, proceed from smaller to larger ducts by a gradual and regular enlargement, because it would not have been proper that the secretion of milk should emerge as it was formed; and therefore we find an apparatus adapted for the purpose of retaining it for a proper time. This apparatus is to be found both in the teat and in the internal construction of the udder. The teat resembles a funnel in shape, and somewhat in office, and is possessed of a considerable degree of elasticity.

It seems formed principally of the cutis (skin) with some muscular fibres, and it is covered on the outside by cuticle, like every other part of the body; but the cuticle here not only covers the exterior, but also turns upwards, and lines the inside of the extremity of the teat, as far as it is contracted, and there terminates by a frilled edge, the rest of the interior of the teat and ducts being lined by mucous membrane.

But as the udder in most animals is attached in a pendulous manner to the body, and the weight of a column of fluid would press with a force which would, in every case overcome the resistance of the contraction of the extremity, or prove oppressive to the teat, there is in the internal arrangement of the udder, a provision to obviate this difficulty. The various ducts, as they are united, do not become gradually enlarged, so as to admit the ready flow of milk in a continual stream to the teat, but are so arranged as to take off, in a great measure, the extreme pressure to which the teat would otherwise be exposed.

Each main duct as it enters into another has a contraction produced, by which a kind of valvular apparatus is formed, in such a manner as to become pouches or sacs, capable of containing the great body of milk.

In consequence of this arrangement it is necessary that a kind of movement upwards, or lift, should be given to the udder before the teat is drawn, to force out the milk; and by this lift the milk is displaced from these pouches and escapes into the teat, and is then easily squeezed out while the contractions or pouches at the same time, resist, in a certain degree, the return or reflux of the displaced milk.

This valvular arrangement is thus a very beautiful combination of exquisite mechanism, with organic functions, and readily explains why a series of lifting actions is requisite in the artificial milking of a cow—why the calf, the lamb, and the colt, jerk up their nose into the udder, and why the pig and the puppy push up the teat with their feet.

EXTRA PREMIUMS.

The Executive Committee of the Cumberland County Agricultural and Horticultural Society offer five extra premiums, payable in 1861, as follows:—

To the person within the limits of the Society who shall make the greatest general farm improvements, during the years 1859, 1860 and 1861, 1st Premium, \$100; 2d do., \$50; 3d do., \$25; 4th do., \$15; 5th do., \$10.

Improvements of all kinds are embraced in this offer; such as reclaiming swamp and bog lands; underdraining; improvement in old orchards, and setting out new ones; cultivating forest trees and timber; improvement in farm buildings, fencing, and others of a like nature.

Competitors will be required to give a detailed statement of their farming operations, embracing the valuation of their farms at the first and last visit of the committee, the cost of the improvement made, and the general productiveness of the farm. To obtain a premium the improvement "must be wise in its inception, thoroughly and economically performed, and productive of palpably good results."

The Committee will award the premium with reference to the increase value of the farm. Applications for premiums may be made to the committee consisting of E. G. Buxton, Yarmouth; J. P. Perley, Bridgton; and Samuel T. Raymond, Saco, or to the Secretary of the Society, before June 1st, 1859.

The committee will visit any farm free of charge to the applicant.

A CALL AT FRIEND KEZER'S.

Our neighbor, John Kezer of Winthrop, is a man of inquiring mind, and one who is not afraid to try an Agricultural experiment, and when he has tried it faithfully is not opposed to telling the results, whether it had been successful or unsuccessful. We called there the other day to examine some improvements he and his son had been making in his barn and cattle shed for the purpose of having better arrangements for the accommodation and protection of manures. The tie-up for his cattle was in a basement on the east end of his barn, and say about twelve feet in width. An addition, say about fourteen feet in width, was built on to the barn of the same size as the barn; or in other words the barn was made fourteen feet longer. The flooring and siding of the old tie-up was torn away and the whole thrown into one room. This is floored over-head; which flooring is an extension of the great floor of the story above the basement. Into this lower room thus enlarged—which in fact becomes a cow yard under cover—the cattle are turned loose; the old mangers are left as before, and also the stalls, so that they can be tied up if necessary. This room is lighted by windows on the east side, and on the north and south side are wide doors which slide up and down, being suspended with balancing weights like a weighted ash window. The flooring or loft above, is devoted to the storage of muck, farm litter, &c., &c., which is thrown down through trap doors whenever an addition of material to the compost gathering below is needed.

The cattle being thus kept together, with the liberty of moving about, tread up and mingle together in the day time, or while they are there, the material, and adding their own droppings, in a short time make up a large lot of valuable dressing. If the compost becomes wet and miry, the cattle can be removed for a time to dry stalls, until the accumulation can be removed, or dry material added to absorb the superabundant moisture. This was the case when we were there. The arrangement being recently made, Mr. K. had not been able to have a supply of dry material in sufficient quantity to absorb all the extra moisture. There has been a large quantity of muck stored up during the last fall and this winter. It has not had time to dry. In order to use this with the success desired, it will be necessary to lay in a stock of muck a year before hand, and give it a chance to become thoroughly dried.

A large amount of excellent fertilizing compost will be made during this present housing season, and we see no reason why the plan will not ultimately succeed well.

The other part of the basement of the barn is a pig-parade. Here comfortably situated in warm and convenient pens are six or eight motherly pokers, each with a numerous family of young piglets, fat and frisky, little dreaming of the rigorous winter without. To each pen is attached an apartment communicating with the main nursery by an opening too small for the mother to pass out but sufficiently large for the pigs to come through.

This is the pig play-ground, into which they frequently come for a frolic, and where they also find a trough filled with such food as juvenile pokers like. This has a two-fold service. It early learns them to feed themselves, and it relieves in a great degree the mother from being reduced in flesh by an oversupply of milk for her young. There were some fifty or sixty pigs about the right age for sale, and they are ready for market thus early in the season, we have no doubt they will be readily disposed of.

We missed a good time by not being present at the closing meeting of the Bethel Farmer's Club; but our attentive friend Dr. True furnishes the following interesting account of the sayings and doings on that occasion for the benefit of our readers:

THE BETHEL FARMER'S CLUB.

Perhaps the readers of the Farmer may be interested to know that we have held our weekly meetings during the winter, in which we have discussed various topics pertaining to agriculture. On Thursday evening, March 17th, 1859, we closed our series of meetings with a supper. About one hundred gentlemen and ladies sat down to a generously provided table. A blessing was invoked by the Rev. Mr. Thompson, and strange havoc was made upon the baked beans and brown bread by the old stagers; the young men looked out for a bowl of oysters, and the still younger members took good care of the cakes, pies, pop-corn and fruit. One of the most delicious was a bountiful supply of the vegetable oyster, done up in excellent style. Probably not one in ten present ever tasted it before, and but few at first could recognize the difference between the vegetable and the animal. This was furnished by our noble President, A. L. Burbank, Esq., who says that he can raise them with perfect ease and has had them in any quantity all winter. Such a new article should be more extensively cultivated as an excellent substitute for the more expensive article of real ones. After supper, Dr. True, who was honored with the position of Toast Master, read the following:

1. The Bethel Farmer's Club—A permanent Institution; may its members never club each other.

This was responded to by the President, who stated that the Club had been in active operation for five years with increasing interest. Its library had increased to one hundred and seventy-five volumes, containing almost everything desirable for the farmer. He thought that much good had resulted from these meetings.

2. The Town of Bethel—Beautiful in situation, sublime in its scenery, famous in its history, fertile in its soil, productive in large potatoes, beautiful farms and good men.

Responded to by Dr. A. Twitchell: I have always felt much pride in my native town, in its growth, and in the education of the people. We often speak of it as citizens, and justly too. Its history is interesting, and any one who will respond to its beautiful place is not fit to be here. Its scenery is admired by visitors. Its mountains have an imposing appearance, and I have no doubt have an important influence on the quality of its men. We may not produce great crops, but we can produce great men. Bethel has shed its share. One of our young men whom I had

hoped to see here this evening, now represents the new State of Oregon. Another is elected to represent a portion of New York city, in Congress. It has had a large number of educated men who may be found in almost any State of the Union. Men brought up here are compelled to be educated by the force of circumstances.

3. The Garden—The place to cultivate flowers, fruits and the virtues.

Rev. Z. Thompson responded: The garden is too much neglected in our villages. It is the most convenient and advantageous of anything to be found on the farm. Vegetables should come fresh and pure directly from the spot where they grow. These things are not only convenient, but there is a mental improvement derived from it. No man can walk in a good garden, without having a great lesson read to him. Weed well the garden of the heart is his great lesson there. It induces refinement of feeling, gives growth to the imagination, correct taste and moral power, as well as a just sense of the beautiful, and lifts the heart to the Great Giver.

4. The Farmer—The oldest aristocrat in existence, who alone can trace back his occupation and lineage to Father Adam.

Rev. Mr. Gains responded: I was not thoroughly aware till just now of my lineage. I am a farmer's son. The farmer is after all the true and ancient aristocracy of the world. Not that there is no other noble occupation, but that this is more in accordance with the original plan, and is the foundation of every art and employment.

Out of the earth, is the first and last man. Men in political life have not the proud lineage of the farmer. In his homestead with his fields around him, they bring forth bread to the eater and seed to the sower.

5. The Science of Agriculture—A glorious field for the laborer on his farm, or the scientific explorer after truth.

Rev. Mr. Snow of Norway, responded: I too am a farmer's son, and understand well its labors and pleasures. Scientific knowledge and practice should be united. We all once had prejudice against book farming, and they were justifiable. Men's theories and zeal outran their knowledge. Farmers are plain, practical men; they want to know results. Certain theories were very nice, but they did not tally in casting up accounts.

6. The Ladies of the Bethel Farmer's Club—Their presence cheers us; their frowns are death to us. Little would I be accomplished in Agriculture without them.

Responded to by Dr. N. T. True, but he spoke so fast and somewhat incoherently, being a little intoxicated with the subject, that we cannot report him. We can only catch one idea, and that was, that we cannot do a thing without them. He read some complimentary verses given to him by a lady member. Also a toast:

7. The Ladies tender their sincere thanks to the gentlemen, for having so much patience with their noise, and they will try hereafter to be more quiet.

8. The marks of a good husband—One who joins the Farmer's Club, and attends its meetings. No better recommendation to young ladies is necessary.

Dr. J. Fanning responded: Any young lady who plans herself under the protection of such a young man will secure a good home, and a freedom from want, and he would approve of the sentiment here advanced.

9. The President of the Bethel Farmer's Club—Well known as an earnest advocate of farm improvements. His last investment is in a Farming machine.

The President responded, that it afforded him pleasure to state, that this was the best investment he had ever made.

10. Devon Cattle—Expressive in the eye, beautiful in form and color; the oxen good for labor, and the cows for milk.

Responded to by G. Chapman, Esq.

11. Improved labor saving machines—The next great step towards perfection in agriculture.

12. The State of Maine—Not yet half known by her sister States. Her modest worth will soon be better appreciated by her own sons and daughters.

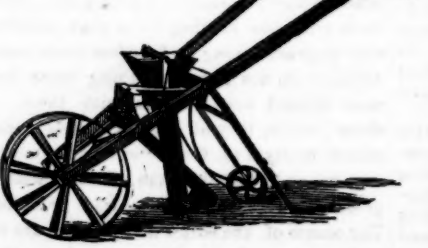
Responded to by Mr. Josiah Brown.

13. The Members of the Farmer's Club—May their fields have few weeds, their cattle no diseases. May their interests lie in heaps; a heap of manure, a heap of corn and potatoes, and a heap of cash.

After the speeches were finished, the following notice was read:

Two or three Bachelors belonging to the Bethel Farmer's Club will be put up at auction, and struck off to the highest bidder some time during the present year. It will be a good investment to all interested in this species of property.

Thus closed our gathering, after singing "Old Hundred." You may believe it was one of the happiest meetings ever witnessed. N. T. T.



A friend describes it as an improvement upon all others that are now in use, for its regularity in sowing, marking the furrow, &c. It drops one or more seeds at a time, according as you may desire, from five to six inches apart, covering them and rolling the ground at the same time. The machine is strong but light, weighing about twenty-five pounds. Those who have used it speak very highly of it.

THOUGHTS AND QUERIES ON REARING HORSES.

Mr. Editor:—I have for a long time hoped that some one of your many excellent correspondents would favor your readers with a series of articles upon the rearing of horses.

Are there not scores of old veterans, Doctor, whom you can call out, who, from large experience in breeding and training, can give your readers many facts applicable to the wants of many interested in raising this truly noble animal?

We want the result of experience in treating the dam while pregnant and while the foal is allowed to run by her side. Of the treatment of the foal at weaning, and for the two first years, but most of all, do we desire to have the experience of our best horse breeders upon the proper manner of breeding. The selection of the dam with reference to the physical qualities necessary for producing farm animals, roadsters, and trotters, or sporting horses. Also as to what qualifications are necessary in stallions to be sired to brood mares of certain qualifications. These are some of the points upon which I think many of your readers would be enlightened by the experience of those who have been successful in this branch of agriculture.

Do not cite us to this book or that for theory alone. We want the remarks of practical men among us, who know the difficulties to be met here in our climate. There are plenty of them who can speak readily and correctly of the best method of breeding and developing that class of horses which commands the highest prices in market. And in this connection let me remark, that, while horses, generally speaking, have been valued so low in this State for several years as to discourage their production, yet, first class roadsters and sporting horses have commanded nearly as good prices as ever. Indeed, go through this State, and you rarely find a good horse of mature age, the best are bought up young, when they show promise, and carried abroad to Boston or New York, the great market for our best animals. The result is that our present class of breeding animals are incapable of producing fair stock.

We sell our best and then complain because we get so little price for the production of those animals, which are too mean, except for our own drudgery. And allow me to mention one point in connection with the above, which almost any of your readers, interested in this matter, will recognize as true: that, in proportion as the quality of our horses have declined, so has the number of years increased which is necessary to raise a colt to maturity, suitable for market. An ill bred animal requires more years to fill up and develop for service than one properly bred. This fact stands directly in the light of the farmer's profit. A highly bred horse, shows at three years of age, courage, symmetry and speed, while an ordinary bred nag requires four or five years to acquire anything like mature shape and qualities.

I do not mean by highly bred to say that our horses should necessarily possess an extra portion of "blood" as it is termed, or in other words "thoroughbred"; but let each farmer, raising horses, keep in view the objectionable points in his own stock, and cross with animals well developed in those points. If this plan is persevered in the result will be a perfect animal.

The people of Vermont are becoming thoroughly posted upon these important points, and the result is, their horses sell at least one year younger than ours, and the average price is more than double of ours.

It is evident that this branch of the farmer's labors here in Maine is attended with less success, pecuniarily speaking, than any other of his various efforts; and I believe this is wholly to be attributed to our careless manner of breeding. Very little is said or written in our Maine papers upon this subject, but the interest in cattle, sheep and swine, and almost every other department of husbandry is well cared for. Most excellent articles upon subjects of interest to the farmer, appear every week in your valuable paper, which encourage and enlighten the reader; shall horse breeding, training, pedigree, &c., have due share of encouragement?

I am aware that several agricultural societies in Maine have attempted to discourage the breeding of trotting horses, by discouraging the display of speed and endurance at their fairs. But trial has proved that wherever the horses trotted, there were found the men, women and children.

Trotting horses will be raised, will be trotted, and so long as the exhibitions can be controlled by judicious men, under rules of a society which is disposed to prevent excess, so long will trotting horses be appreciated by a large majority of the public. Trotting horses will always be sought after and paid for roundly. And he who breeds with greatest care and trains best to develop his colts, will reap the greatest harvest of money and rational pleasure.

Now Friend Holmes give us one little corner devoted to this interest, direct us by your own keen observation and experience, call out the experience and theory of others, and our Maine shall become as famous for rearing good roadsters and trotters as it is famous for good cattle, strong men and handsome women. Yours truly

"NOVICE."

NOTE. Our friend "Novice"—tho' no novice by a long chalk, "is welcome to a pretty spacious corner in our paper, and so will be any other friend to the horse interest. The rearing of horses has been profitable to Maine although carried on in rather a "slipshod" way—that is without any fixed system or regular method. System and method are absolutely necessary to ensure the greatest profit, in every other business. They are equally necessary in this business and will be followed by corresponding results. Let us hear from those of our friends in Maine or anywhere else, who have had experience in this important branch of stock breeding. Ed.

STOCK BREEDERS' CONVENTION.

Some of our exchanges are advocating a convention or meeting of the stock breeders of the United States, at Hartford, Connecticut, at some convenient time. We like the idea, and vote yes, but if they should half of them come, would Hartford be able to hold them?

APPARATUS FOR WATERING STOCK.—IMPROVED SLED.—SAVING BEANS.

Mr. Editor:—Being somewhat disabled, and thinking that I might be of some little service to our "brother man," I take my pen to jot a few lines.

Well, I am a small farmer and young in the business too, it being only nine years since I commenced, the prime and vigor of my life have been spent in mechanical pursuits. I have been except that of driving some fifty rods to a brook, or drawing from the house-wall by a chain. I followed the practice till last year, when I threw by the chain and supplied its place with a suction pump, which I find saves me much labor.

Now for an improvement. The distance from pump to barnyard is 100 feet, and quite level; and to get water to run under ground, (for it must do so to be out of the way of travel,) I had to make a sink for the cattle to go into to drink—the ground in an opposite direction falling so that it could be drained easily. For the stock water I have a pump sited that comes out under the platform, some five feet long, which is to be plugged when water is required for the kitchen. The advantages are:—1st, I do not raise the water as high; 2d, I get rid of ice that would be caused by the spluttering of water; and 3d, I save the trouble of the lower spout. My trough is 12 feet long, and is all secure from frost except four feet. The pump and conducting logs are all of yellow ash. I have no trouble from ice. There has been no time within three years that a never failing well could have been sunk.

Again, I have a Sled different from any other, inasmuch as it has no rails, and having iron staples instead of wooden runnels or iron bolts; the staple is of three-fourth iron, and is spread 34 inches to receive a 5 inch bar, turned, not exactly square at the corners, and driven with a mallet, entering the runners some four inches. I have had one in use seven years, and there are a number in this vicinity. You will want to know what are the advantages to be derived? Well, let there be no risk of breaking the legs of cattle while in the yoke or out; 2d, it is easier to drive over through in loading logs or timber; 3d, it is not such a much labor to put on eight feet of wood such as we haul to our doors, because we have no rail to lift over, which, by placing a sled would require the log to be raised some six inches higher, and then there is no rail in the way of the hands. There should be a three inch chock upon the runners between the after and next bar, and something forward of the forward bar to lay aside upon for loading. A man at work alone can get along easily, for when he gets his log on to one or other of the fore or aft bars, he can rest and renew his hold for the second bar, when that is done put in a stake and the victory is his.

Much has been written on the subject of saving beans on the vines. I will give you my method. Last winter I procured cedar stakes enough for fifteen. I got to mill yellow ash logs for boards, and before they were needed I had my bean racks ready for use. The form is a base board 8 or 10 inches wide, having holes through which to insert the stakes, and through these to be holes, and pins or nails inserted to hold up the base board, and this to be clear from the ground. Then on the inside of the stakes are pins some six inches long, and one foot apart; the space at the bottom 18 to 20 inches, and 14 to 16 inches at the top, height from ground 8 to 9 feet; the cap board to be of same width. I exhibited a model at the Franklin County Fair last fall, and took a premium. I have a small model I will send you if you wish, and will inform me how to send.

I will mention one article more, a cart back which is constructed as follows: side sills 34 by 7 inches, cross sills 24 by 6 inches, joined together, but not to a level by one inch, so as to receive the floor board; the six cross sills to be bolted to the ends; four of the bolts are to be formed on the end rods by a flange at the lower end of the rod and above the sill and nuts below, four flat and four square studs; the side boards to be bolted to the studs through plates of iron, all to be put together in oil and red paint. Length between end boards 64 feet, width 4 ft. 3 in. at the after end and 3 in. wider than the forward end, so as to unload easily, and give a better chance to drop manure into hills. The tail board, which may be unshipped as a door, to be hung by hinges and held by a chain for dumping out of cart. You will see that the cart can be raised in front, and the tail board let down to a certain position in the commencement of the unloading. I have no cross mortices at all, the floor is all of yellow ash, and is supported by a bar that rests on the axle. The swivels are to pass through plates of iron that will cross the axle, and if kept snug by nuts will not wear loose.

RUTUS DENNISON.

Winn, March, 1859.

CUTTINGS.

The present is perhaps the best time to propagate cuttings from green-house plants. Verbena, petunias, heliotropes, geraniums, fuchsias, hydrangeas, dielytras, &c. &c. They should be set in the smallest pots, whence they can be bedded out in fine condition as soon as the weather will permit.

All the fine varieties of shrubs, including the whole family of spiraea, can be multiplied to any extent by cuttings stuck in garden soil, in open culture, in the latter part of March and April. Most of them grow freely and with very little trouble. They should be mulched, occasionally watered, and the earth pressed about them.

[German Town Telegraph.]

SURE CURE FOR HORN DISTEMPER.

Slit the end of the tail and put a tablespoonful of turpentine in the hollow back of the horns.—It should be repeated for several days.

Symptoms of the above disease.—The hair will stand up straight on the backbone, dry nose, the horns next to the head will be cold.

[Prairie Farmer.]

A COUNTRY HOME.

O, give me a home in the country wide
And seat me by the farmer's wood fire side;
Where the fire burns bright,
On a frosty night,
Where the jost, the song, the laugh are free;
O, the farmer's home is the home for me.

O, give me a home in the country wide;
When the earth comes out as a blushing bride;
With her buds and flowers,
In the bright spring hours,
Her bridal song ringing from fresh leaved trees,
And melody floats on the perfumed breeze.

In summer, a seat in a shady nook,
And close by the side of a purring brook,
Where the violet grows,
Or the pale swamp rose,
Faintly, rich, 'neath the sun's scorching beam,
Dip her pale petals in the cooling stream.

O, give me a home in the country wide,
In the golden days of a farmer's pride,
When his barns are filled
From the fields he tilled;
And he feels that his yearly task is done,
And smiling at winter he beckons him on.

For the Maine Farmer.
WAYSIDE NOTES OF TRAVEL.—No. 1.
GREENVILLE, March 16, 1859.

This is the most northerly town in Piscataquis Co., sixty-five miles from Bangor, and seventy from Augusta,—and has about 300 inhabitants. The village, which contains about twenty neat, well finished dwelling houses, two stores, and two large, three story hotels, is at the foot of Moosehead lake, and is the remotest settled point in this direction.

Moosehead Lake, which discharges itself into the Kennebec, is forty miles long, extending to the north from this village, and is from three to five miles wide.

The carrying place from the northern extremity of the Lake is only three miles long to the west branch of the Penobscot. Large quantities of supplies for Penobscot lumbermen pass by the way of Greenville, up the Lake, and so on to the Penobscot waters.

There are three steamboats on the Lake, which in summer find constant employment in towing rafts, in transporting lumbermen's supplies, and in carrying passengers up and down the Lake.—Greenville is a great place of resort during the summer months, for persons in pursuit of health and pleasure; and the two hotels are then constantly crowded with company.

Twenty miles up the lake is Mt. Kineo, which rises abruptly from the shore, to the height of some three thousand feet, keeping eternal watch and ward over the blue waves below; a throne for the storm king, whence he thunders and lightens upon the world around. The shores of the Lake abound with dark, romantic, vale and mountain scenery; its bosom is dotted all over with green isles, and its waves dash and play in the sunlight as they bear upon their surface the graceful steamer, freighted with gay and happy hearts, who come hither in summer to escape the staidness of the town, and the insipidity of the city. The steamer runs daily up and down the Lake, and persons in pursuit of health or recreation, in the summer months will find as large an installment of each on Moosehead and its surroundings, with as little cost as at any other resort.

The snow at this time is very deep,—not less than three or four feet. The roads are not shoveled out, but every where level with the surface. Nearly all the fences and stumps are covered. Of course I could not see the quality of the land, but from the fact that many of the farms have good buildings, and the people appear to be prospering, I infer that the land is good.

I noticed in Greenville a neat church in process of erection, which is to be finished next summer, and will add much to the attraction of the village as a place of resort.

Intelligent and respectable tourists are always gratified, in the enjoyment of public worship on the Sabbath, when away upon their excursions.

A gentleman informed me that a very pleasant excursion in the summer, is up the Lake in the steamer, taking along a birch canoe, that can be carried over to the west branch of the Penobscot, which can be followed until the tourist reaches Chesuncook Lake, and through Chamberlain and other Lakes to the waters of the St. John, and down the St. John to Woodstock and Fredrickton. This journey, of some one hundred and fifty miles before reaching the St. John, is through an unbroken wilderness, except an occasional opening connected with lumbering operations, and may all be performed by water, with the exception of a few miles of carrying between the navigable waters of the Kennebec and Penobscot, and St. John. The whole distance from Greenville to Woodstock, may be accomplished in five days; and to the lover of nature, in the leafy month of June, could not fail to be a most delightful excursion.

MONSON, March 18.

This town is fourteen miles from Greenville on the road to Bangor. I judge that it is a very good farming town. It has a neat and beautiful village, located on the banks of a pond, which, although now covered with a mantle of ice and snow, is no doubt in summer a mirror which reflects to heaven the surrounding handiworks of God and man.

The village is nearly composed of tasteful private residences, few poor or dilapidated buildings of any kind are to be seen. There are two well finished churches, on one of which is a bell, an Academy, several stores, two hotels, machine shops, mills, &c. The town has been settled about forty years, and manifests evident indications of New England thrift. The church and school house, standing side by side, one to polish the heart, and the other the understanding, and to give vigor and energy to both, are the elements of New England prosperity.

I had occasion to call on Mr. Wm. D. Hoar of this town who owns a noble farm just out of the village, who, like a true farmer invited me to his barn to see his stock. His flock of seventy sheep, as well as other stock was worth seeing; but what interested me most was a superior bull, a cross of the Devon and Durham. He is twenty-five months old, girls six feet eleven inches, and is seven feet and ten inches from his horns to the roots of his tail. When twenty months old, he weighed 1540 pounds, and measured six feet and seven inches. He has increased in girth an inch a month for the last year. I am not particularly posted in the size and weight of stock, but it strikes me, that this bull is a No. 1 for sale. Mr. Hoar will keep this bull for the use of farmers in the vicinity, and

those who wish to raise large stock, will do well to avail themselves of the opportunity.

For some days the snow has been wasting away, and many of the roads are impassable on account of the slumping. For the last twenty hours it has rained incessantly, which, with the melting snow promises an early freshet. It is said that the lumbermen will be compelled to leave the woods, and many of them may find it difficult to drive out their teams.

OUR YOUNG MEN.

We doubt whether any other country exhibits a larger amount or proportion of useless talent, of misdirected energy, than ours. Our clever young men in fearful superabundance assert themselves to Law, to Physic, to Commerce, mainly because these seem the only pursuits which promise wealth and distinction. Hazardous as merchandising is known to be, long and toilsome as is the path to eminence and fortune at the bar or in medicine, these seem to most of our aspiring youth the only unofficial avenues to fame and fortune; hence they are uniformly, ruinously crowded. There has been no day of the last forty years in which there were not four times as many trying to live by trade in this country as were needed in that occupation—twice as many as could possibly succeed. Hence the fatal expansion and looseness of Mercantile Credit; hence the failure of at least nine-tenths of all who engage in traffic. To fail is as natural an end to a mercantile career in this country as to be killed is to the soldier enlisted for life. If a man opens a store, the ready inquiry is, "How long will he last?" and he who escapes bankruptcy for so long as ten years, does well, better than the average. We could name country villages which have had their fifteen or twenty mercantile firms in the course of the last thirty years and broken them all within two or three; and of these not one has retired with a competence. One is trading yet and solvent; two, perhaps, have retired or removed, losers, but not broken; the rest have gone the way of all American traders—or so nearly all that the exceptions help to prove the rule. Of the young men who will this year embark in trade, it is safe to say that three-fourths will want a National Bankrupt Law within the next ten years, and another eighth within twenty. But they cannot break so fast that others will not scramble for their places. Thousands of new concerns will be opened this year, to be closed as thousands were in 1857-8. It were idle to remonstrate against this tendency—the thing to be done is to countervail it.

Of the need of good Farmers among us, we have frequently spoken. We will let no one quarrel with us as to what constitutes a good farmer, since we concede that every tiller of the soil who grows large average crops pretty uniformly, makes his farm richer each year, and realizes a profit therefrom, is of the right sort, though he has no knowledge of and no faith in science, never saw a drain tile, and believes the education which suffices for an ox

MAINE FARMER

We also paid a visit to Mr. Wm. Sutton, a very good practical farmer and stock breeder at St Dennis, near the Relay House, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, about ten miles out of Baltimore. Mr. Sutton keeps a milk farm and has a variety of cattle, among them a few Jerseys, Grade Durhams, Grade Galloways, or perhaps more properly speaking, polled Norfolk. He pointed out one of the latter which had some

HARPER'S MAGAZINE for April is received through A. Williams & Co. The illustrated articles are, Wrecking on the Florida Keys; The Christian Martyrs of Madagascar; The Red River Trial. A gallery of funny "Heads of the People," is also given. For sale at Pierce's.

☛ The publishers of the *Maine Rural* propose to issue a daily paper in Gardiner provided sufficient patronage can be pledged to secure them against loss the first year.

☛The Massachusetts Liquor Commission Burnham, is undergoing examination before a committee of the Legislature, on a charge of

and stock. Loss between \$200 and \$400. Partially insured.

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

THOMAS LEIGH, has in store a large assortment of Northern and Western Herds Grass, Clover, and Red Top Seed, which he will sell either at wholesale or retail, at as low or lower prices than can be bought on the river.

March 17, 1859. 6w10*

W. M. R. PRINCE & Co., Flushing, New York, will send priced catalogues of their Trees and Plants, to applicants who enclose stamps. Apple and Pear trees of extra size for immediate bearing, and other trees and small fruits. 5w12*
